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¹ Frederick M. Baron was a very prominent Texas plaintiffs' asbestos lawyer. His firm's memo on how to coach plaintiffs on product identification testimony achieved some renown in the late 1990s. [Baron & Budd asbestos memo \(en-academic.com\)](#)

Honorable Michael A. Shipp

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September 11, 2023

bankruptcy counsel in the LTL matter. The firm was not involved in any way with the preparation or presentation of evidence concerning any merits issues related to the health or safety of talc generally or the history of Johnson & Johnson and/or LTL's manufacture or sale of talc-based products specifically, all of which was handled by special counsel in the matter. Similarly, the firm has never been involved in the defense of the underlying product liability talc cases in any forum.

While of course it is ultimately this Court's decision, we remain of the belief that there is no conflict and that Judge Wolfson is best suited to move this litigation forward expeditiously – she has deep knowledge, she presided over the week long R. 702 hearing on general causation and indeed it was the application of her 141 page opinion that was the focus of much of the case management conference last week. Importantly, direct to Ms. O'Dell's comments about the need to move this litigation expeditiously to trial, using Judge Wolfson on the key R. 702 issues will achieve that goal and avoid the long delay it will take any judicial officer to get up to speed on the issues.

Thank you for your continued consideration of these matters.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan M. Sharko

SMS
cc: All counsel via ECF